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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORIAL OFFICE

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We are pleased to begin this volume with a monthly publication. We hope our readers will enjoy receiving the Journal more often and will look forward to our regular features. Our own pleasure is to be able to provide our authors with the opportunity to see their papers in print sooner.

The growth of the Journal is commensurate with a healthy rate of submission and citation, clearly an indication that *CMI* is providing something unique in the overpopulated world of biomedical journalism. Our intention to produce a journal which offers a broad view of infectious diseases has created a niche for *CMI* among the various sub-specialized publications. Having met our goal of attracting manuscripts worldwide, we are proud to provide a forum for authors whose research endeavors warrant publication alongside well-established authorities in the field. The inaugural meeting of the World Association of Medical Editors which took place during the International Congress on Biomedical Peer Review in Prague last September provided an opportunity to regard *CMI* within the context of the broad community of biomedical periodicals, the long-established and the newly created. It was gratifying to realize our kinship with other journals, and to confirm our mutual efforts to maintain a high quality of peer review, to filter out conflicts of interest, to abide by a strict definition of authorship and of course, to streamline editorial processing. Our own efforts are among the best presented and we would be grateful to hear how our readers and authors and reviewers would describe their experience with *CMI* editorial policy and their relationship with the *CMI* editorial team.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the expanded editorial board. David Speller,

with whom many of you have corresponded, remains our senior scientific editor; Niels Høiby and Claude Carbon have been working also in this capacity for several months and have agreed to remain as editors. Dick Madeley and Peter Chiodini have more recently assumed responsibility for submissions within their areas of speciality, virology and parasitology respectively. Mark Jones, specializing in molecular biology, has been a member of the editorial board since May. Certain of the Associate Editors have become more closely involved with editorial decision making and will continue in that role. Jean-Claude Pechère is responsible for much of the commissioned material that has been published in the last volume. Barry Peters, a more recent addition to the board, has assumed responsibility for commissioning the continuing education articles for this and the following volumes. Ian Phillips remains chairman of the *CMI* executive committee and works alongside Jacques Acar in representing the membership and maintaining the priorities of the Society.

One editorial policy change of which we would like you to take note is the decision to differentiate between brief descriptions of original research and comments referring to previously published material. We have thus replaced the formerly inclusive category of Letter-to-the-Editors with two separate categories: Concise Communications and Correspondence. In doing so, we hope to encourage readers to submit their reactions, corroborative or contradictory, to what they have read in *CMI*.

Our best wishes for the year upcoming, and in anticipation of an ongoing relationship.

*Judith Crane and the Editorial Board*